

PREVIEW MEN'S GIANT SLALOM PALISADES TAHOE – Saturday 25 Feb 2023

General

- The Palisades Tahoe resort (renamed in 2021 - formerly known as Squaw Valley) will host men's alpine skiing World Cup events for the second time, after a slalom and giant slalom in March 1969. Billy Kidd won the slalom that year and Reinhard Tritscher finished first in the giant slalom.
- The most recent World Cup events here were a women's slalom and giant slalom in March 2017, when Mikaela Shiffrin won both events.
- At the 1960 Olympic Winter Games that were held at this venue Roger Staub won gold in the men's giant slalom and Ernst Hinterseer won the men's slalom.

Marco Odermatt

- Marco Odermatt won the world title in the men's giant slalom in Courchevel on 17 February.
- Odermatt has won 19 men's World Cup events. He can become the fifth Swiss man to win at least 20 World Cup events, after Pirmin Zurbriggen (40), Peter Müller (24), Michael von Grünigen (23) and Didier Cuche (21).
- Among Swiss men, only von Grünigen (23) won more men's giant slalom World Cup events than Odermatt (11).
- Odermatt has competed in five men's giant slalom World Cup events this season and won four of these. He finished third in Alta Badia (18 December). Odermatt did not start in the giant slalom in Schladming due to a crash in Kitzbühel the week before.
- Odermatt has reached the podium in each of the last 13 men's World Cup giant slalom events in which he **started**. He can become the fourth man to claim a podium in 14 successive **starts** in men's giant slalom events, after Ingemar Stenmark (37, 1977-1981), Marcel Hirscher (18, 2016-2018) and Alberto Tomba (14, 1990-1992).

Henrik Kristoffersen

- Henrik Kristoffersen finished second behind Tommy Ford in the last men's giant slalom World Cup event that was held in the United States, in Beaver Creek on 8 December 2019.
- Kristoffersen won the men's slalom world title in Courchevel last week despite only finishing 16th in the first run.
- Henrik Kristoffersen has finished on the podium in four of the five men's giant slalom World Cup events this season, but he has yet to win one (3 second places, 1 third place).
- Kristoffersen only claimed more podium finishes in World Cup giant slalom events in 2017/18 (5, all second places).

Other contenders

- **Loïc Meillard** claimed his first men's giant slalom win in the previous World Cup event in Schladming. Switzerland has only won more men's giant slalom World Cups in a season in 1995/96 (7) than in 2022/23 (5 - Odermatt 4, Meillard 1).
- **Alexis Pinturault** has won 18 World Cup giant slalom events, ranking him fifth all-time among men. His most recent victory in this event was in Lenzerheide on 20 March 2021.
- **Marco Schwarz** finished third in the last two men's giant slaloms: the World Cup in Schladming and the world championships in Courchevel.
- The most recent man representing **Austria** to win a World Cup giant slalom event was Marcel Hirscher. Hirscher's last win came in Adelboden in January 2019.
- **Lucas Braathen** can win his third men's giant slalom World Cup event. Norway has won each of the last four men's World Cup events on US snow, all by Aleksander Aamodt Kilde in Beaver Creek (super-G and downhill in 2021 and 2022).
- The last Norwegian to win a men's giant slalom World Cup in the United States was Lasse Kjus in Beaver Creek on 4 December 2004.
- **Žan Kranjec** (2) hopes to equal Jure Kosir (3) on most World Cup victories among men representing Slovenia.
- **Gino Caviezel** hopes to equal his older brother Mauro Caviezel as winners of a men's World Cup event. Mauro won the super-G in Val d'isère in December 2020.

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